THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) As per the University Grants Commission (Minimum qualifications required for the appointment and career advancement of Teachers in universities and institutions affiliated to it) (Second Amendment Regulations, 2006) dated 14.6.2006, National Eligibility Test (NET) shall remain the compulsory requirement for appointment as Lecturer for those with post-graduate degree. However, candidates having Ph.D. degree in the concerned subject are exempted from NET for Post Graduate level and Under Graduate level teaching. The candidates having M.Phil degree in the concerned subject are exempted from NET for UG level teaching only. These Regulations have been framed on the basis of recommendations of an Expert Committee.

(b) As per available information, no such meeting has been organized specifically in regard to the NET.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Differential Fee Structure

7. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be plaesed to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce a differential fee structure to suit the paying capacity of every student;

(b) whether Government has received any recommendations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is a fact that it would not be prudent to charge the same fee from all students irrespective of their socio-economic status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Article 15 (5) of the Constitution inserted through the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005, enables appropriate laws to be made for the advancement of the weaker sections in matters of admission to all educational institutions, including private unaided professional educational institutions, except minority institutions. Some of the States have enacted laws to regulate fee in educational institution, including private unaided educational institutions. A proposal in this regard is under the consideration of the

Government for a Central law to give effect to the Constitutional provision, under which differential fee can also be prescribed for the weaker sections.

Higher education as pro-rich and urban phenomenon

8. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a report it has been found that higher education is a pro-rich and urban phenomenon;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to remove this disparity; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the enrolment of the SCs in higher education increased from 8.6 percent in 1990-91 to 11.3 per cent in 2002-03 while that of the STs was from 2.1 percent to 3.6 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Government is not aware of any such report.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is a trend of visible increase in the enrolment of SC/ST in Higher Education.

Unrecognized technical and professional courses

9. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many institutions all over India are offering degree in technical and professional courses which are not recognised by Government but have credential in private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to include such courses in Government institutions or universities or give affiliations to selected private institutions so that students are free from uncertainty about their future career prospects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?